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A bacterial rot of the tomato is also described in this bulletin. The bacteria were isolated from tomatoes which showed no sign of fungus growth. They were cultivated in pure culture and when reinoculated into the tomato fifty out of a total of sixty-seven inoculations produced the characteristic disease. There are thus two distinct diseases: a rot due to *Fusarium* and another rot due to bacteria.—F. L. STEVENS.

Root tubers of Dioscorea.—Some years ago QUÉVA described the vegetative organs of certain species of *Dioscorea*, and reached the conclusion that the tuberous body which occurs at the end of some of the roots represents an organ which has changed its nature from root to "something else." The matter was taken up by GOEBEL, who explains this peculiar body as an organ whose morphology lies between a shoot and a root. A much more simple and more natural explanation has recently been offered by LINDINGER,¹⁸ who has studied *D. discolor*, and concludes that the roots do not change their morphological nature, but their function. The root consists of a slender, cylindric, basal portion, and a tuberous apical one, the former functioning as a nutritive, the latter as a storage root, which is also able to produce root-shoots. The anatomical structure of both regions is discussed, and it is interesting to notice that in the tuberous part the mestome strands are not arranged in a circle; that the inner mestome strands are collateral; and that, at least in some portions of the tuber, no endodermis is differentiated.—THEO. HOLM.

Secretory organs of Menispermaceae.—According to MAHEN,¹⁹ these consist of ducts with tannin, ducts with caoutchouc, and secretory cells. Ducts with tannin occur in the cortex and pith of the stem, in the primary cortex of the root, in the parenchyma of the petiole, and in the midrib of the leaf. They are tubes of considerable length, and very often difficult to detect without tests for tannin; and are characteristic of certain species of *Anamirta*, *Cocculus*, *Cissampelos*, *Burasaia*, *Calicocarpum*, etc. Ducts with caoutchouc are known only in *Tinomisium*, being found in all the vegetative organs as follows: in the stem, around the sclerenchymatic arches of the pericycle and in the pith; in the leaf, in midrib and petiole around the mestome strands. They are tubular and very thin walled. The latex is white and granulose, readily soluble in chloroform, but only partly so in absolute alcohol and ether. The secretory cells, observed only in *Abuta rufescens*, and containing an essence, abound in the stem near the sclerenchymatic pericycle on its outer and inner face.—THEO. HOLM.

A Linnean herbarium.—Although the herbarium of LINNAEUS went to London after his death, several other collections made by him and his pupils remained in Sweden, but have not been accessible until recently. In fact, it was not known

¹⁸ LINDINGER, LEONHARD, Ueber den morphologischen Wert der an Wurzeln entstehenden Knollen einiger *Dioscorea*-Arten. Beih. Bot. Centralbl. 21:311. 1907.

¹⁹ MAHEN, JACQUES, Sur les organes sécréteurs des Menispermacées. Bull. Soc. Bot. France 53:651. 1906.